

To: Young, Margo[Young.Margo@epa.gov]
From: Kim Williams
Sent: Fri 8/15/2014 9:40:13 PM
Subject: Kim Williams testimony

Thank you. My name is Kimberly Williams. I am the Executive Director of Nunamta Aulukestai. I advocate for our members who belong to 10 tribes and 10 village corporations. we are neither rich or outsiders to the region. I would like to thank EPA for your transparency, starting in the Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment. You held 7 public hearing and then you peer reviewed the draft and held another meeting asking for input.

You responded to the public and the peer review before going final with the Watershed Assessment. You met one on one with the Tribes in Tribal consultation who asked to be involved. you allowed Tribal governments to sit down as part of the Technical Team in the drafting of the Watershed Assessment. You are to be commended for this model process that continues with the 404c process and the reason why we are meeting today.

This Proposed Determination, you are concluding the 7 public hearings today, you have a 60 day comment period. Thank you for coming out and documenting the views from the people of Bristol Bay, no matter which views we have. You've even notified and met with the State and Pebble Limited Partnership and asked them for more information as you move along this 404c process. What an amazing transparent and open process.

I would like that to be in comparison to our State of Alaska, who continues to maintain that no public notice is required for mineral exploration, even though it is as extensive as Pebble's and that there is no notice of water use permits. the state uses a ruse of calling them "temporary" even though the use continues on for a decade and longer. The State's process is not "open" or "transparent."

So thank you. I urge you to keep moving along with the 404c process. I am giving you a picture to place into the record of the Mount Polley Tailings Impoundment break. This is just a recent example of a modern mine that results in an environmental disaster. I urge you to get finished and finalize the determination so that we can have protections put in place for our water and salmon around the Pebble deposit.

Sent from my iPad